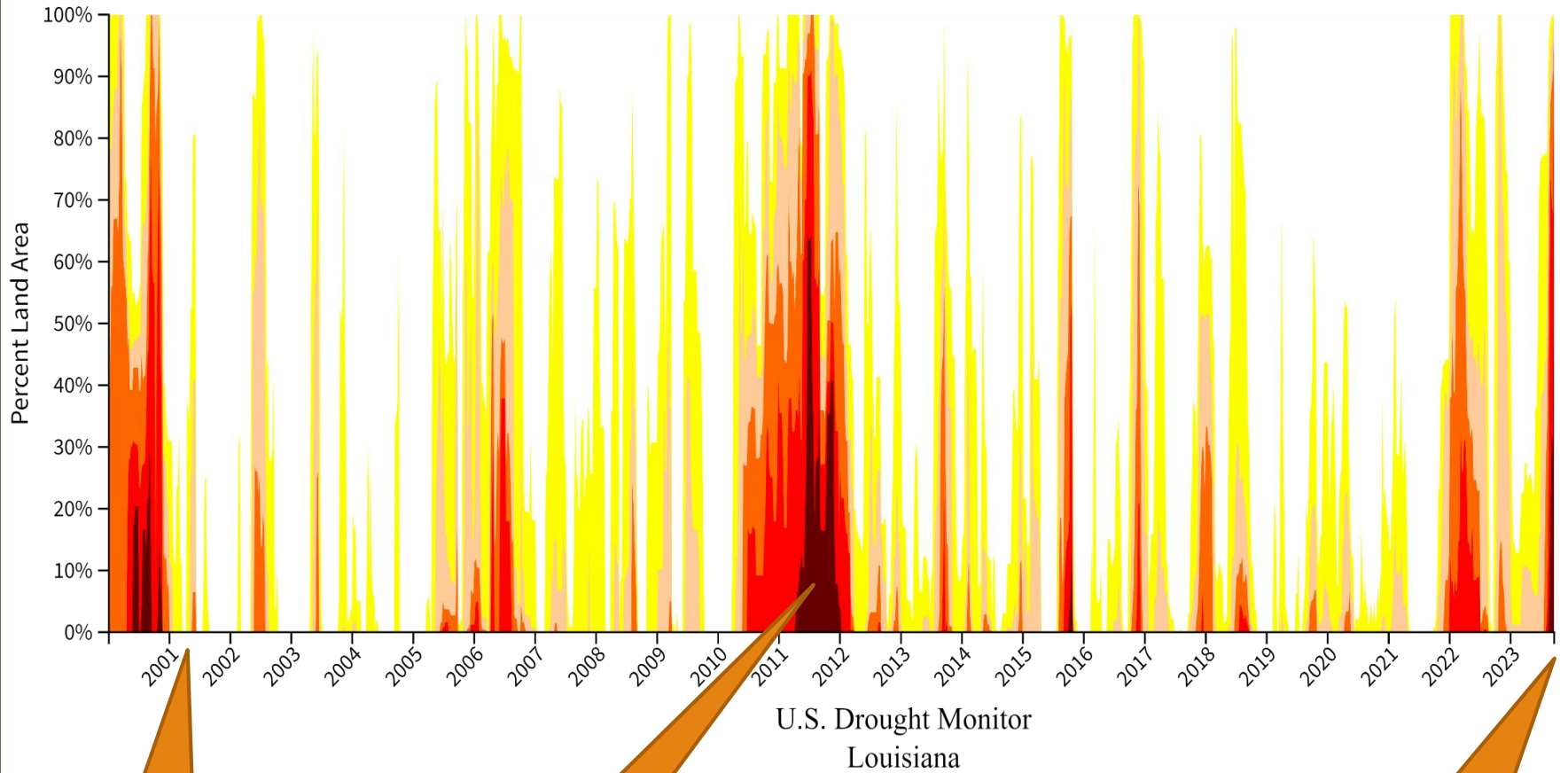


OFFICE OF CONSERVATION RESPONSE TO ONGOING DROUGHT



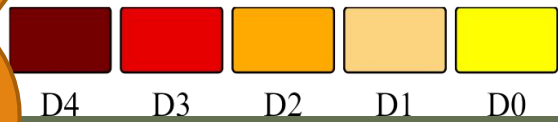
Presented to:
La. Water
Resources
Commn.
Sept. 27, 2023

DROUGHT IN LOUISIANA, 2000 TO 2023



**Act 446
(2001)
GW Mgmt
Commn,
etc.**

**South
Caddo
GW
Emerg.**

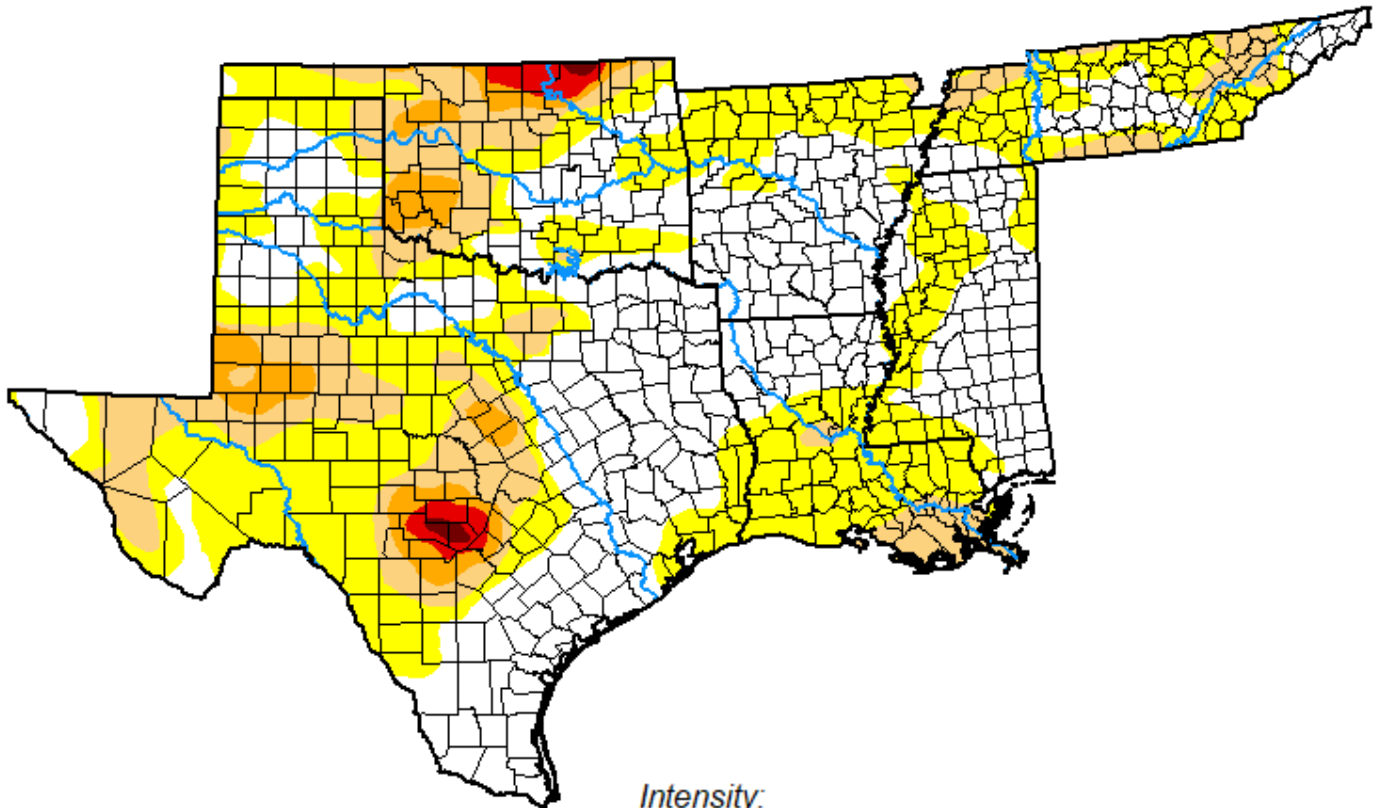


**We Are
Here**

**ALL GRAPHS FROM NATIONAL
DROUGHT MONITOR**

PROGRESS OF DROUGHT
CONDITIONS IN LOUISIANA,
2023

June 20, 2023

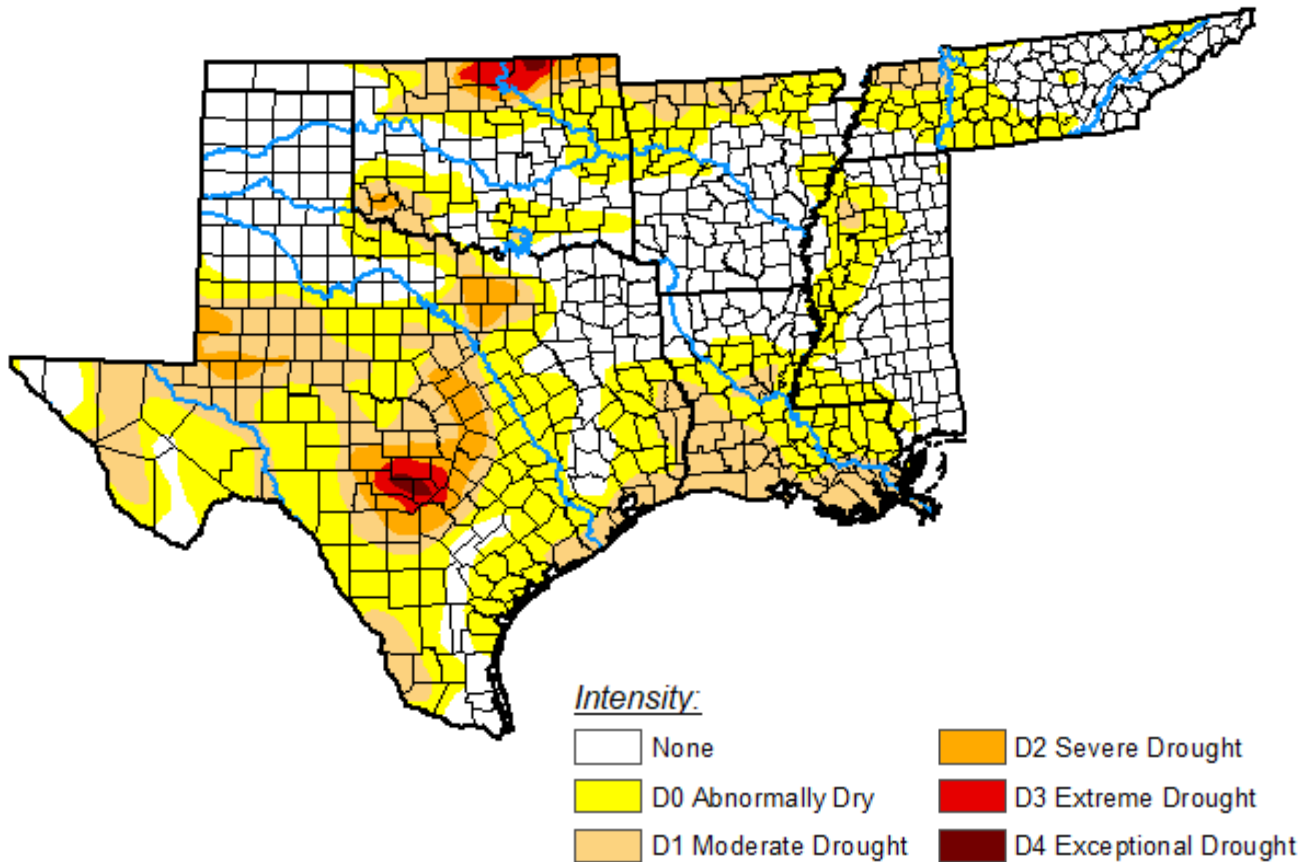


Intensity:

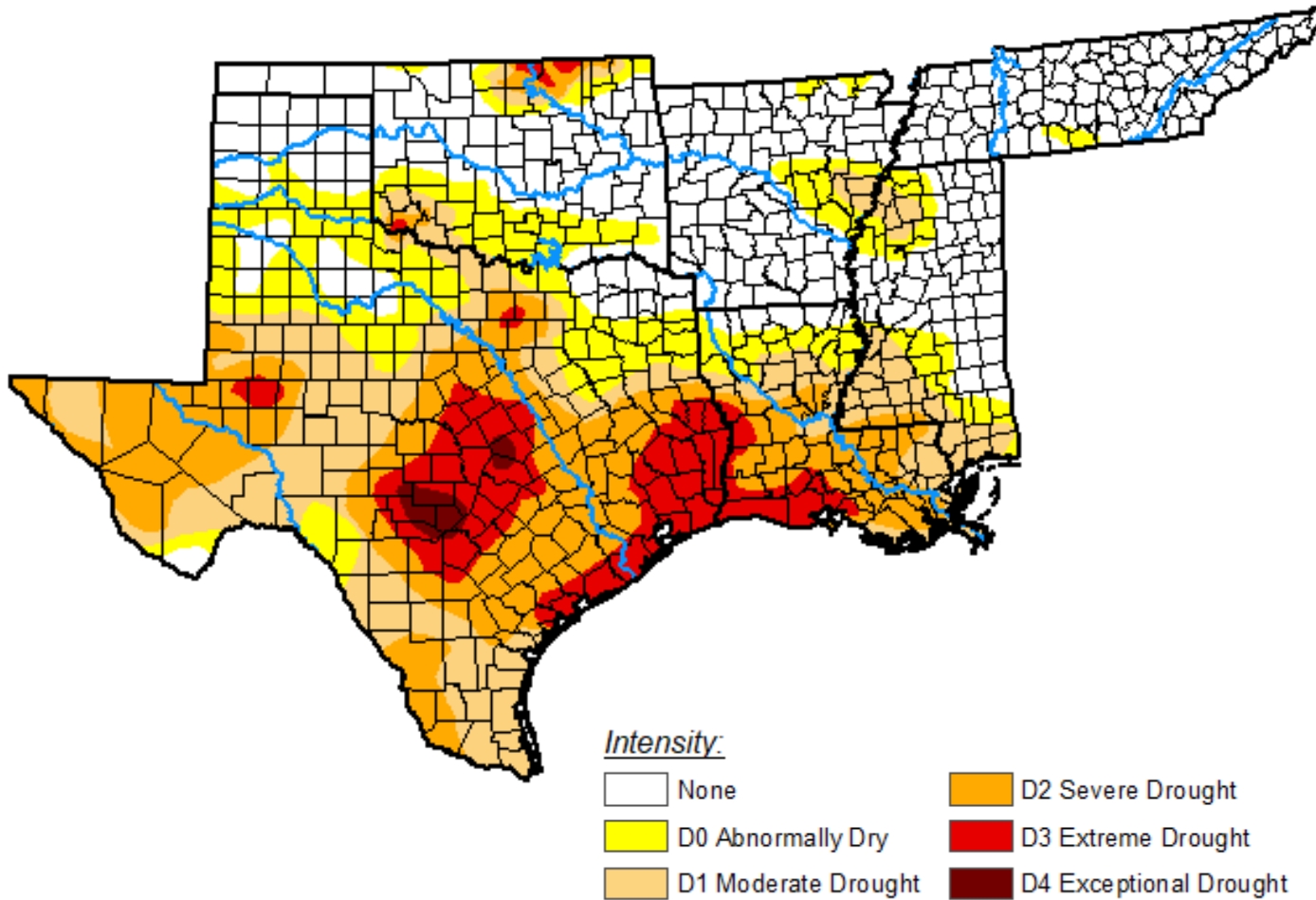
 None	 D2 Severe Drought
 D0 Abnormally Dry	 D3 Extreme Drought
 D1 Moderate Drought	 D4 Exceptional Drought

ALL GRAPHS
FROM
NATIONAL
DROUGHT
MONITOR

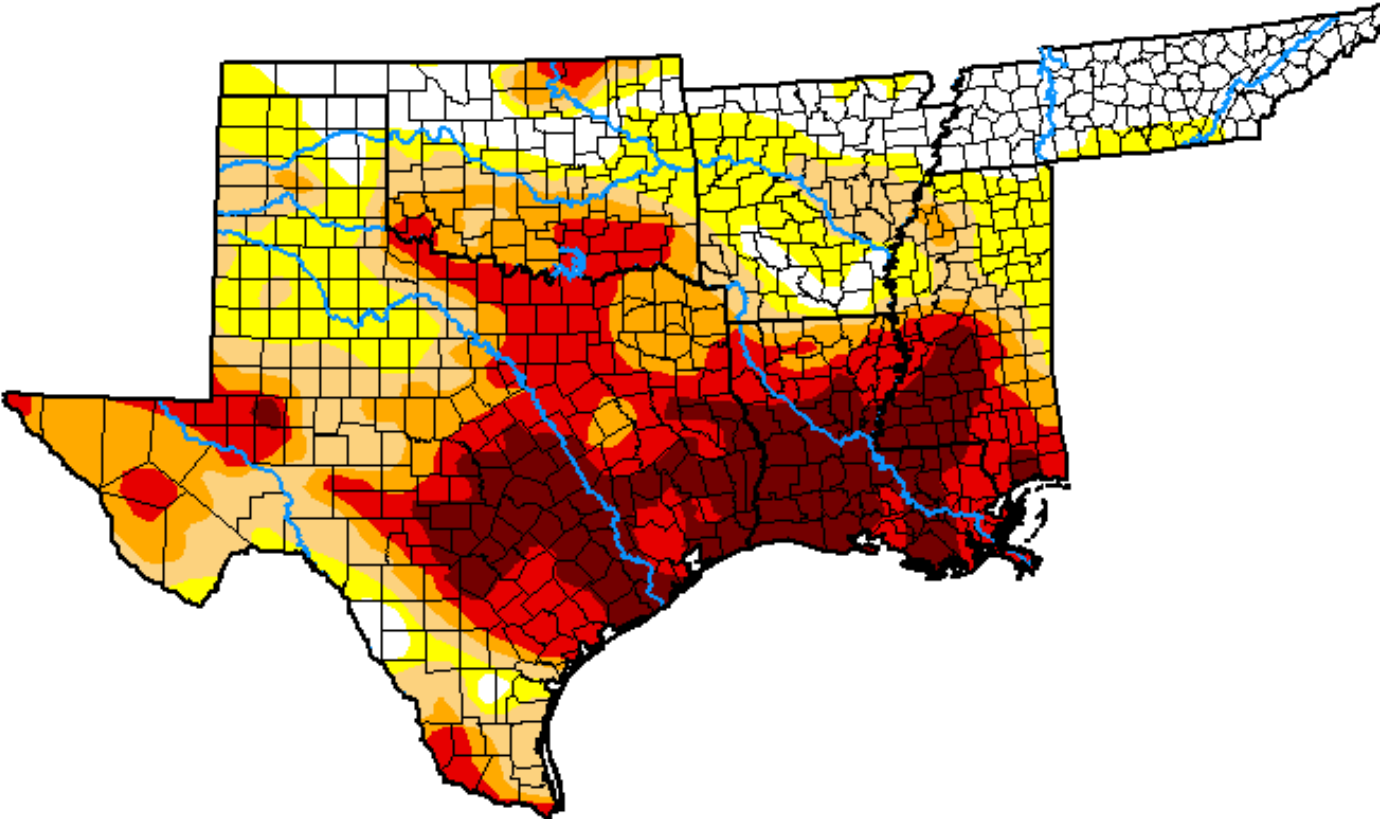
July 11, 2023








August 15, 2023



September 19, 2023

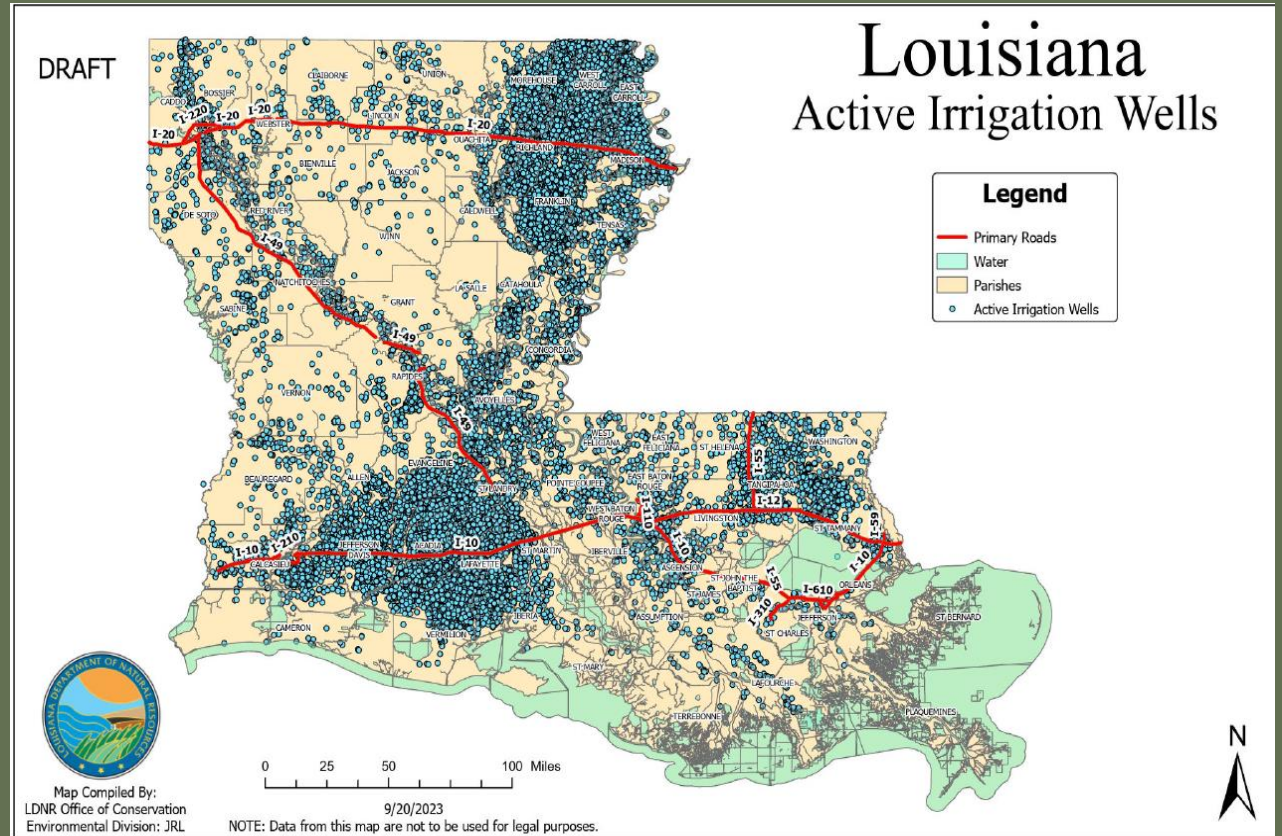


Intensity:

- | | |
|---|--|
|  None |  D2 Severe Drought |
|  D0 Abnormally Dry |  D3 Extreme Drought |
|  D1 Moderate Drought |  D4 Exceptional Drought |

AGENCY CONCERNS

- Shallow domestic wells more responsive to heavy use in times of high heat & drought
- Additional irrigation or watering needs for crops and livestock



AGENCY RESPONSE

- Continued review of data through summer
- Conversations w/stakeholders, particularly LDAF, on agricultural sector water needs
- Early August – review of informal reports of a few domestic well issues in St. Landry/Evangeline/Acadia area
- Governor issues “Heat-Related” Emergency Order, No. 141 JBE 2023 on 8/11/23
- Specifically requested “All departments, commission, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof

MEMO ON RULES FOR DROUGHT RELIEF WELLS

- Commissioner of Conservation Monique Edwards authorizes Memo to licensed well drillers regarding drought relief well rules, 8/16/23:
 - Specifically for agricultural/irrigation purposes
 - Suspends prior notification requirement for such wells
 - Wells are “temporary” only through drought (P&A or convert thru normal eval. process after)

REPORTING ON FIELD CONDITIONS

- Memo also requests reporting from licensed water well drillers on field conditions to help with agency evaluation needs
- To include:
 - Reports on inadequate supply from installed wells
 - Reports on well maintenance above normal seasonal volumes
 - Inquiries from landowners for new water wells above normal seasonal volumes
 - Pump tests and other reports
 - Location of above

FOLLOW-UP

- Memo widely distributed to water well drillers & stakeholders (other agencies, etc.)
- To-date, only a few requests from well drillers for “expedited” evaluations for specific projects (irrigation/cattle, SW La.); turn-around has been in a day or a few days by OC staff; very timely
- No other real issues reported at this time
- Continuing to talk with well drillers on conditions/work requests they are seeing

WELL NOTIFICATIONS/COMPLETIONS, 2021-2023

- Well numbers continue to look mostly normal, year-over-year
- Irrigation Wells, Notifications

2021	2022	2023 (to-date)
360	422	329

- Domestic Well, Completions/Registrations*

2021	2022	2023 (to-date)
953	1017	748

*St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, & Washington parishes combined for 44% of total in '21, 42% in '22, & 51% in '23

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